

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

James E. CURRY, et al.

Serial No.: 08/598,457

Filed: February 8, 1996

Title: SPATIAL SOUND CONFERENCE SYSTEM AND APPARATUS



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for Ricors
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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111

**Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231**

Dear Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Action dated December 9, 1998, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and objections.

REMARKS

The following issues are outstanding in the present application:

-- Claims 1-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1-27 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being obvious in light of a combination of Minami et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,555,310, hereinafter, Minami) in view of Suzuki et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,440, 639, hereinafter, Suzuki), Cooper (U.S. Patent No. 4,910,779, hereinafter, Cooper) or Tanaka (U.S. Patent No. 5,498,478, hereinafter, Tanaka).

The Office Action asserts that it would have been obvious to combine the stereo voice transmission apparatus of Minami with the head related features or functions of Suzuki, Cooper or Tanaka. The Office Action states that Minami teaches a two-way communication system or conference system which provides virtual audio or stereo voice transmission for the listener, and